

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

1. (Original) A nanocarbon production apparatus comprising:

a light source for irradiating a surface of a graphite target with light;

a surface processing unit for flattening the surface of said graphite target
irradiated with light; and

a collecting unit for collecting carbon vapor evaporated from the graphite
target by irradiation with light, as nanocarbon.

2. (Original) A nanocarbon production apparatus comprising:

a target holding unit that holds a graphite target having a cylindrical shape
and rotates said graphite target around a central axis;

a light source for irradiating a surface of said graphite target with light;

a surface processing unit for flattening the surface of said graphite target
irradiated with light; and

a collecting unit for collecting carbon vapor evaporated from said graphite
target by irradiation with light, as nanocarbon.

3. (Original) A nanocarbon production apparatus comprising:

a target holding unit that holds a graphite target having a flat plate shape and
rotates said graphite target by 180 degrees in a normal line direction of a surface;

a light source for irradiating a surface of said graphite target with light;

a surface processing unit for flattening the surface of said graphite target
irradiated with light; and

a collecting unit for collecting carbon vapor evaporated from said graphite
target by irradiation with light, as nanocarbon.

4. (Currently Amended) The nanocarbon production apparatus according to ~~any one of claims 1 to 3~~ claim 1, further comprising movement unit that moves a relative position of said graphite target relative to said light source.

5. (Currently Amended) The nanocarbon production apparatus according to ~~any one of claims 1 to 4~~claim 1, wherein said surface processing unit removes a part of the surface of said graphite target at a position different from the irradiation position of said light.

6. (Original) The nanocarbon production apparatus according to claim 5, further comprising dust collecting unit for collecting dust of said graphite target generated in said surface processing unit.

7. (Currently Amended) The nanocarbon production apparatus according to ~~any one of claims 1 to 6~~claim 1, wherein said nanocarbon is carbon nanohorn aggregates.

8. (Original) A nanocarbon production method comprising:

irradiating a surface of a graphite target with light, collecting carbon vapor evaporated from said graphite target as nanocarbon, and flattening the surface of said graphite target irradiated with light; and

irradiating said surface that is flattened with light again and collecting carbon vapor evaporated from said graphite target as nanocarbon.

9. (Original) A nanocarbon production method comprising:

irradiating a surface of a graphite target having a cylindrical shape with light while rotating said graphite target around a central axis, collecting carbon vapor evaporated from said graphite target as nanocarbon, and flattening the surface of said graphite target irradiated with light; and

irradiating said surface that is flattened with light again while rotating said graphite target around the central axis, and collecting carbon vapor evaporated from said graphite target as nanocarbon.

10. (Original) A nanocarbon production method comprising:

irradiating a surface of a graphite target having a flat plate shape with light and collecting carbon vapor evaporated from said graphite target as nanocarbon;

flattening said surface of said graphite target irradiated with light after said graphite target irradiated with light is rotated by 180 degrees in a normal line direction of said surface; and

irradiating said flattened surface with light again and collecting carbon vapor evaporated from said graphite target as nanocarbon.

11. (Currently Amended) The nanocarbon production method according to ~~any one of claims 8 to 10~~claim 8, wherein irradiation with light is carried out while moving an irradiation position of light in said irradiating the surface of the graphite target with light and in said irradiating the graphite target surface with light again.

12. (Currently Amended) The nanocarbon production method according to ~~any one of claims 8 to 11~~claim 8, wherein said flattening the surface irradiated with light comprises removing a part of the surface of said graphite target.

13. (Currently Amended) The nanocarbon production method according to ~~any one of claims 8 to 12~~claim 8, wherein said irradiating the surface of said graphite target with light comprises irradiating with a laser beam.

14. (Currently Amended) The nanocarbon production method according to ~~any one of claims 8 to 13~~claim 8, wherein said collecting the nanocarbon comprises collecting carbon nanohorn aggregates.